



# Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the citizens of Foggy Bottom

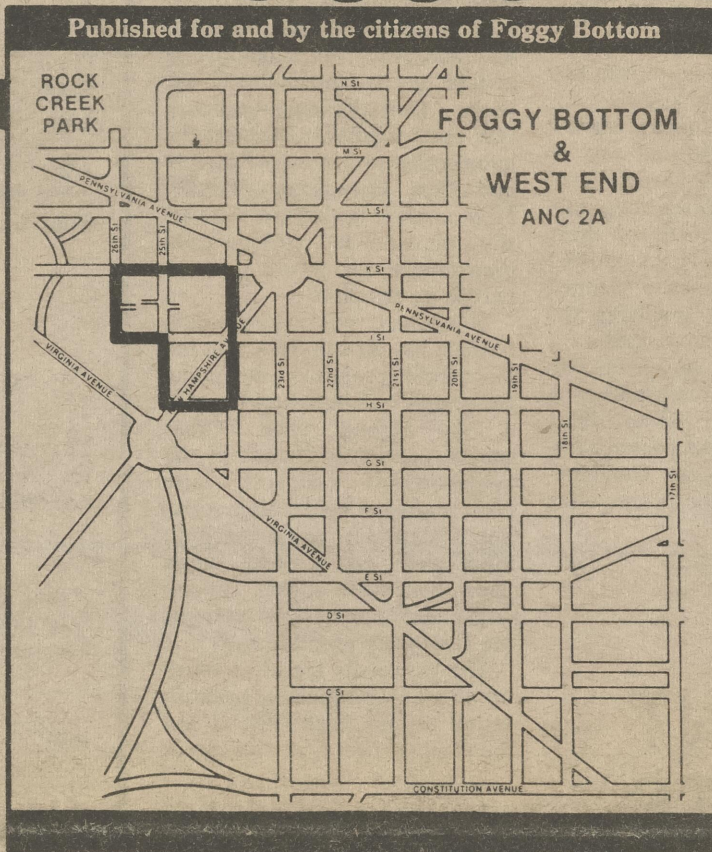
June 1984

Volume 29, No. 5

## FOGGY BOTTOM NOMINATED AS HISTORIC DISTRICT

by Steve Levy

On June 5th, the FBA and ANC were pleased to file the application for historic district designation for all or part of Squares 5, 16, 17, 28 and 29. The area is roughly bounded by K, 24th, New Hampshire, H, 26th, Eye and 27th Streets. Details will be included in the next issue of the *Foggy Bottom News*.



## DONATIONS TO FBA ARE NOW TAX DEDUCTIBLE

by Mel Ogden

About a year ago the Foggy Bottom Association applied to the Internal Revenue Service to become a tax exempt organization. The IRS misplaced our application and considerable time elapsed before the loss was detected. Another application was filed with the IRS. They have made a temporary determination that donations made to FBA are tax exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which will also include payment of dues to the Association after April 30, 1984.

Our advance ruling period ends December 31, 1985. Within ninety days after this date the association must furnish certain information to the IRS for them to review and determine if we continue to be eligible for tax exempt status.

Application was made to the District of Columbia Government to become exempt from the payment of the D. C. sales tax. A Certificate of Exemption was issued to FBA on March 12, 1984. We shall no longer be compelled to pay D. C. sales tax on purchases made by the association.

Our residents are encouraged to make donations to the FBA and to pay the dues which are \$5.00 per person for a year. Your assistance is needed to work with the D. C. Government and to help with community problems in order to make Foggy Bottom a more desirable place to live.

## JUNE SPEAKER: EMILY EIG

The day our nation's Constitution was adopted, a lady asked Benjamin Franklin what kind of government the United States would have. "A democracy, if you can keep it," he replied. The Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhood is as old as our Constitution. Whether we keep our residential character for another two hundred years, however, depends on how well we cope with commercial encroachment and city government neglect. If we are successful, an important contribution to the preservation of our neighborhood will have been made by the guest speaker for the June meeting of the Foggy Bottom Association, Emily Hotaling Eig.

Ms. Eig is the cofounder of Tracerics, Inc., the DC firm hired by the FBA and the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC2a) to assess the historical and cultural importance of our neighborhood buildings. Ms. Eig has appeared before the Association many times before to report on historic preservation matters, most recently in January 1984. This time Ms. Eig will be presenting her recommendations on Square 14, between 25th, Pennsylvania, 26th and M Streets.

As promised by both the FBA and ANC, a very deliberate and public process has been followed in approaching possible historic designation for portions of our neighborhood. The results of the initial survey on potential historic resources were published in this paper some time ago in draft form and in final form just last month. Approval to prepare draft historic landmark/district applications has been given only after extensive publicity and in public meetings of the FBA and ANC where the pros and cons were debated.

In the case of Square 14 (please see the other historic preservation articles in this month's Foggy Bottom News for more information), the FBA sent home and property owners of those buildings which would be likely to contribute to an historic landmark the existing architectural information, a brochure explaining the historic designation process and its benefits and disadvantages, and a survey on owner attitudes about the creation of the proposed historic landmark. The FBA will now be discussing the filing an application for historic landmark status. Ms. Eig will give an overview of historic preservation and answer our questions.

## FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION JUNE MEETING 8 PM June 25

St. Paul's Parish House  
2430 K Street NW

Guest Speaker  
Emily Hotaling Eig  
of Tracerics Inc  
on  
Historic District  
Status for Square 14

(Eastern half only of the block between 25th, Pennsylvania, 26th and M Streets)

This meeting will also be a Public Forum/Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A.

## Also Election of Foggy Bottom Association Officers and Board Members

## Special Meeting FBA and West End ANC 7:30 PM WEDNESDAY July 11, 1984

The major anticipated item of business will be to take a position on *whether the eastern half of Square 14 should be designated as an historic landmark*. All presentations on this issue will have been made at the June 25 FBA meeting.

Please note that ANC business meetings will now be on the second Wednesday of each month (instead of the first Tuesday) until further notice.



# Minutes of Foggy Bottom Assn. 5/29/84 Meeting

## Crime Report:

Larcenies from automobiles, 31 in May, continue to be the major crime problem in Foggy Bottom/West End, reported Lieutenant Herbert. Fifteen occurred in lots and 16 on the street. Twenty-four automobiles were stolen from the area last month, 16 from lots and commercial garages and 18 from the street. There were 24 burglaries, 20 from commercial establishments and 4 from apartments. One street robbery, at 2:15 a.m., was reported.

## Speaker:

Laura Longley, Director of Communications, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, described the facets of the Kennedy Center operation and the numerous programs available to the public. She explained that while the building and grounds constitute a presidential memorial supported by federal taxes, the performing arts aspects of the center, e.g., the five theaters, are maintained by tickets and donations. Free pamphlets announcing events are available at the center.

## Announcements:

Noise from planes not conforming to regulations on National Airport flight paths continues to trouble the neighborhood. Voice your complaints by calling 557-2081.

The FBA Executive Board, in its meeting on May 22, 1984, passed several resolutions. The Board resolved to enter into further contracts with Traceries for the study of the historic significance of Foggy Bottom east of 24th Street and to devote proceeds from the spring fling auction towards payment of these contracts. The Board supported in principle a proposed planned unit development involving the preservation of the facade of a historic 1930's car garage on 24th Street above M Street which is intended for conversion to offices and shops. The FBA passed a resolution reflecting the community's support for the preservation of that landmark.

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Whenever a vacant space exists within the GW campus, a trio of landscape gardeners with "green thumbs" have been turning out beautiful mini-parks and gardens.

In an effort to share this talent and join with our neighbors in adding beauty and color to the Foggy Bottom neighborhood, GW has "adopted-a-park" at the intersection of 24th and I Streets and New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., and is having the University's planners and gardeners put their tender, loving stamp of expertise on the land.

This small, but highly visible triangle has already taken on the air of spring promise by mounding the ground and replacing the tree at the highest point. Other shrubs, previously planted by the neighborhood residents have been regrouped and a large selection of daffodils, grape hyacinth, black-eyed susans and yucca plants have been added. The annual maintenance will be done by the University grounds staff.

The University feels it is worth the effort to continue the beautification of our neighborhood and the campus. We hope you agree.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Diehl  
Vice President and Treasurer

# SOME CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PRESERVATION

by Steve Levy

One of the recommendations in the survey of potential landmarks in Foggy Bottom and West End (see article in last month's *Foggy Bottom News* and related article in this issue) was that the FBA and ANC apply for landmark designation for the old B&W Garage (1250 24th Street). The stated reason was that: "This building embodies the distinctive characteristics of a building type in its early phase of development, designed in the Art Deco style as a garage when the automobile was still a new phenomenon. The building appears to be architecturally intact and has retained its original use." The building further is the only one Traceries recommended for historic designation in the industrial area of the West End.

The primary owner of the garage, Mr. Philip Brown, recently approached the ANC to request our support of a major development incorporating the existing building. The developer, Joseph Kaempfer, has prepared a design which responded to most of the

concerns raised by the ANC. The building would retain the existing front facade of the garage, convert most of the first floor to retail services and construct a five story office tower on top. The curvilinear office facade design avoids competing with the garage facade and offers the promise of a pleasing streetscape as well as useful services. The rear of the property is to be attractively landscaped, and will serve as an amenity for those persons who will live in the residential building Boston Properties plans to construct at the corner of 25th and N Streets. Although many of the ANC members would have liked to consider a landmark application, most Commissioners recognized that the heavily residential areas farther south should have the highest priority for ANC funding and for consideration for historic designation. This proposal therefore came along at an opportune time, before either the ANC or the FBA committed extensive resources to this building.

Although the ANC supported the project in concept as a planned Unit Development, it reserved the right to comment on each specific aspect of the proposal when the detailed application is filed with the Zoning Commission. In more recent action, the Executive Board of the FBA voted to support the application, also reserving the right to comment on the detailed application.

# Columbia Hospital Announces Donation

Columbia Hospital for Women Medical Center recently received a memorial donation from Foggy Bottom residents, Mary and Amelia Healy, in honor of their long-time friends Priscilla and James Snyder. The Snyders were original residents in the Watergate East. Seven pink Dogwood trees will be planted in their honor on the Hospital's front lawn for all the community to enjoy.

June 1984

Volume 29, No. 5

# Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

Editor ..... Deborah Cahill-Zelinka

Assistant Editor ..... Donna St. John

Advertising Manager ..... Jean Bowling, 363-7991

Circulation ..... Ellie Becker

## Contributing Writers

Primal Screen Therapy ..... Karen Jaehne

Crime Watch ..... Bob Alcorn

From the Bottom Up ..... Puck

Local News ..... Elizabeth Charette

All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed double spaced. Please include an evening phone number. Send to:

## FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

% West End Library

24th & L Sts., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20037

Next issue deadline: September 7, 1984

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

## 1982-83 Officers

Acting President ..... Tom Miller

Secretary ..... Lois Zuckerman

Treasurer ..... Melvin Ogden

## Executive Board

Bob Alcorn, Mary Brewster, Ellie Becker, Anne Lomas, Florence Ryan, Ed Schleifstein, Marge Wheatley

# Open Letter To Mayor Barry

May 31, 1984

The Honorable Marion Barry, Jr.  
Mayor of the District of Columbia  
The District Building  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Subject: Whitehurst Freeway Corridor Study—Foggy Bottom

Dear Mayor Barry:

Over 1000 Foggy Bottom residents and property owners—voters and taxpayers—have again expressed their deep concern about the intolerable existing impact of the Whitehurst Freeway (WHF) on living conditions in the Foggy Bottom neighborhood. Nowhere else is there a residential neighborhood so adversely impacted in so many ways by the WHF.

The petitions—which were made part of the official record of the public hearing on the WHF Corridor Study—are a reaction to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the oral testimonies at the public hearings. The petitions request that the redesign of the Freeway (1) facilitate through traffic on arterial roads that bypass Foggy Bottom residential streets, thus protecting our residential neighborhood, and (2) incorporate the extension of the tunnel under Washington Circle to beyond 26th Street, thus eliminating the extreme dangers to pedestrians, the intolerable levels of noise and air pollution, and the vibration damages to properties.

The strong, widespread and immediate reaction (virtually all of the petitions were signed within just one week) is a manifestation of the depth of feelings of grassroots constituents about this issue. This numerous, active and dedicated community continues to deserve your special attention. We are sure that we can count on you to act on behalf of so many of your constituents. We therefore request that you instruct the Director of the D.C. Department of Public Works to devise a design for the WHF which will take account of the deep concerns expressed in the petitions.

Sincerely,

Maria Tyler  
Commissioner, ANC 2A  
Chair, Transportation Committee  
ANC 2A

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# Candidates for FBA

## OFFICERS

*apt. 302*

**Ellie Becker (Nominee for President)**

Ellie has lived in FB since 1963, and has been a homeowner since 1972. Active in the FBA since 1966, she has been vice president, secretary, treasurer and Executive Board member. A special interest has been the FBNews. Ellie has served as writer, proofer and distributor, as well as setting up and managing the News' distribution system.

Other neighborhood activities are participation in the public space project and neighborhood cleanups, and she served last year as chairman of the FBA/ANC ad hoc committee on the 26th & K Street PUD.

Ellie is Director of Member Services at The Proprietary Association, which represents manufacturers of nonprescription medicines. She is currently active in the Washington Volunteer Readers for the Blind and Holy Trinity Church.

**Robert C. Brewster (Nominee for Vice President)**

Robert C. Brewster, who resides at 2528 Queen Ann's Lane, is a consultant and retired Foreign Service officer. He has lived in Foggy Bottom since 1966 with the exception of a period when he was stationed abroad.

In recent years, he has worked on the bus ban and the Whitehurst Freeway, helped with the West End Branch Library, and was a member of the ANC/FBA committee on the 26th and K Street building/development.

**Paul B. Altemus (Nominee for Treasurer)**

Paul Altemus has resided in Foggy Bottom at 2117 E St. (Sherry Towers) since 1977. After ten years as a Foreign Service Information Officer with USIA, he now works as a contract report writer for Federal departments. He has helped with the FBA Spring and Fall block parties for the last three years. He initially became interested in FBA activities through a participation in a successful suit against Sherry Towers management in its attempts to convert to an apartment hotel.

**Lois Zuckerman (Nominee for Secretary)**

Lois is an attorney with the Department of Energy and has served during this year as Secretary to the Board of the Foggy Bottom Association. Our thanks to Lois for agreeing to accept the nomination a second time.

## Response to an FBN Article

Dear Ed Winterbottom:

I wanted to take a minute to thank you personally for your warm article in the Foggy Bottom News about the Omohundro/B'nai Brith properties. The human stories associated with the long history of our neighborhood are so often forgotten and I believe anyone who reads your article will rededicate themselves to preservation. The University is indeed doing a cakewalk through the campus by destroying everything that is pretty and historical, and I fear that our efforts as a community to obtain landmark status have been too little too late, at least in terms of halting the campus "master plan."

More articles like yours will hopefully heighten the sensitivity of each of us to the problem.

Gratefully,

Marianna Moore

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Bob Alcorn (Board Nominee)**

Bob Alcorn has been a resident of Foggy Bottom for more than 25 years. He served on the original committees formed in 1956 fighting changes made to the Whitehurst Freeway, founded both the Friends of the West End Library and the Neighborhood Watch. He has been active on the committee to save the firehouses, and preservation committees devoted to keep historic structures within the area intact. He is on the board of Miriams Kitchen, an organization within the Bottom which feeds the poor and has served on the Consumer Protection Board. Bob has been the author of the FBN's column *Crimewatch* for the past two years and is an incumbent member of the Board of the FBA.

He holds two college degrees, three teaching certificates, is certified as a lecturer, and has written two books.

**Julia Bond (Board Nominee)**

Julia Bond has resided at Columbia Plaza since 1968 and served on the Board of its Tenant Association for two years. She has been a volunteer at the Kennedy Center for twelve years, a poll watcher, and served with the Vietnam refugee program.

Bond has twice been a member of the Nominating Committee for the FBA and headed membership drives in Columbia Plaza for the FBA.

Bond is a graduate of the University of North Carolina.

**James E. Champagne (Board Nominee)**

Jim has extensive first-hand involvement both in government operations and in private industry, including major work experience in written and oral communications. He is a Professional Staff Member, U.S. Senate assigned as chief speechwriter for Senator William V. Roth (R-Del.), Chairman of the Committee on Governmental Affairs. He has editorial responsibility for numerous committee materials.

Jim was a candidate, republican nomination, Mayor of D.C. in 1981.

**Robert H. Charles, Jr. (Board Nominee)**

Bob Charles is President of Access to Telecommunications Inc. a D.C. based independent news service. A resident of Foggy Bottom for several years, he has served as President of the FBA, was co-chairman 1982 of "Ward Two Task Force on Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to adjust pertinent boundaries. Bob is also Ward Two representative on the Democratic State Committee. He holds a bachelor's degree from Yale College and has done graduate study at Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration.

**Isabella Geppert (Board Nominee)**

Geppert has lived in Foggy Bottom for over 25 years. Since 1979 she has resided at the Westbridge. Before moving there, she lived at Potomac Plaza Terraces where she served on the Board of Directors for two years and as Board President in 1982/1983.

Geppert has represented St. Stephen's Church for five years on the West End Laymen's Association, an ecumenical group from all the Churches in the area. She also served four years on St. Stephen's Parish Council.

She has delivered the Foggy Bottom News for the past four years and has participated in FBA membership drives.

**Morella R. Hansen (Board Nominee)**

Morella Hansen received a B.A. from Stanford in 1944. After doing graduate work at Smith College, she worked as a research assistant at the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. In 1947 she transferred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from which she retired in 1978.

She bought 2415 Eye Street in 1955 and joined the FBA the following year. She has held various FBA offices over the years and frequently prepared the coffee for FBA meetings and delivered the Foggy Bottom News.

**Maryanna Kieffer (Board Nominee)**

Maryanna has lived in Foggy Bottom for 10 years. She is an instructor at George Washington University and a doctoral candidate in Philosophy at Columbia University.

Maryanna is the mother of two young daughters and founded "Foggy Bottom Babies." She is active in the successful effort to build a playground in Foggy Bottom and has assumed the responsibility for organization of the fundraising and maintenance for the playground through the Adopt A Park Program for this year. Maryanna is also the famous Easter Bunny at all of the Foggy Bottom Babies Easter egg hunts.

**Tom Miller (Board Nominee)**

Tom Miller, current vice-president and acting president of the FBA, is also president of the Knightsbridge Court condominium association. He has had previous experience on the FBA Board, including service as alternate FBA delegate on the Whitehurst Freeway inter-neighborhood Steering Committee; is an appointed member of the Mayor's Committee for Neighborhood Beautification, chairs the Human Services Committee of ANC2A (the only non-commissioner to head on ANC standing committee) and is a founding member of Ward 2 Democrats. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester and a member of Local 161-170, American Federation of Musicians, he is an international representative for the AFL-CIO.

**Edward Schleifstein (Board Nominee)**

Edward Schleifstein has been a resident of Watergate East since 1965. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Watergate East and has served on the Board of the National Association of Watch Material and Jewelry Distributors of America.

Schleifstein is also a member of several fraternal, social, and charitable organizations and is an incumbent member of the Board of the FBA.

He retired from business in 1981. He was last associated with W. Bell & Company.

**Grace Watson (Board Nominee)**

information

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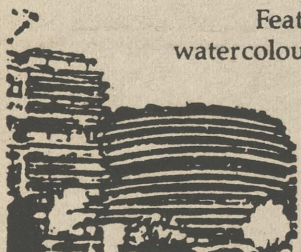
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## Current Historic Preservation Research:

# Urban & Architectural History of G.W.U. Campus

by Margaret Orelup & Emily Hotaling Eig

### AREA UNDER STUDY

The area under consideration in this report includes Squares 30, 31, 40, 41, 42, 43, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, part 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, part 101, 102, 103, part 103, part 104, 122.

This area is roughly bounded by New Hampshire Ave. on the west, Virginia Avenue and E Street to the south, 19th Street between E and F Streets then on to 20th Street on the east, and the rear lot lines of structures with Pennsylvania Avenue street frontage to the north. A map noting this area is attached.

The area is marked by its grid character and lack of distinguishing geographic features. It is set between three major thoroughfares (Pennsylvania Avenue, Virginia Avenue, and New Hampshire Avenue) and holds an uneven architecture consisting of detached houses, rowhouses, and apartment buildings fragmented by the large-scale buildings comprising the development of George Washington University.

### BACKGROUND

This area possesses a large number of buildings representative of a distinctly urban neighborhood of the late 19th and early 20th century. The architectural survey conducted in 1982 revealed an unusual mix of buildings. The types (residential, commercial, institutional, and religious), the styles (including Greek Revival, Second Empire, Spanish Colonial Revival, Queen Anne, Chateausque, Romanesque Revival, Art Deco, Neoclassical, and, of course, Washington ornamental brick), the scale (ranging from modest two story alley dwellings to large multi-story apartment buildings), period (the Lenthall houses dating from 1819 to the 1940's apartment buildings [this study did not concern itself with buildings from beyond the 1940's]), type of construction (wooden frame, brick, skeleton frame) and quality of craft (from vernacular housing to sophisticated ventures into high style) indicate a wide-range of economic and social class and constitute an unusual economic situation.

### METHODOLOGY Purpose of the Study

The purpose of our research at this stage was to identify the factors that were responsible for this wide variety of building stock.

### Methodology

Both the individual buildings and the area as a whole were researched. Research was conducted into historic maps, census records, city directories, and written histories.

Margaret Orelup, an urban historian, was retained to research and analyze findings, working closely with Emily Hotaling Eig, an architectural historian, to establish identifiable patterns of

growth and development that might shed light on this area's architectural heritage.

### Factors

Variety of use is a major factor. This one neighborhood holds single and multi-family residential, academic, religious, medical and some commercial activities. These uses are translated into numerous diverging architectural styles forming sometimes incongruous juxtapositions. The university has, over the years, attempted to establish itself through large-scale structures. The resulting diversity sometimes provides visual interest and often creates a rich streetscape.

A second factor is economics, being reflected in the wide disparity between buildings' style, type and construction.

A third factor is location, being concerned with the area's close relationship with the White House, Pennsylvania Avenue, and Washington's industrial area.

### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

#### Variety as a Product of an Intermingling of Neighborhoods

Studies of extant buildings and of historic maps indicate that this area can be viewed as a seam between two very different neighborhoods. Historians have accepted 23rd Street as the traditional eastern boundary for the working class neighborhood of industrial Foggy Bottom, while to the east, the government office buildings at 17th Street and the allure of the nearby White House served as the anchor for the more affluent residents living in their vicinity. This area appears as a commingling district. Blacks and whites, middle class and lower class, white collar and blue collar lived nearby one another, clustering into small social groupings.

Two explanations for this unusual pattern of neighborhood development can be argued: Washington's unique dependence on bureaucracy, and the development of George Washington University.

#### Bureaucracy and Industry Meet

Washington's dependence on bureaucracy rather than industry for its economic base altered traditional patterns of neighborhood growth throughout this city. This phenomenon is illustrated in this area. The waterfront attracted industrial use, while the White House attracted office use. The immediate juxtaposition of these two forces set up a unique situation where blue and white collar workers sought the same residential location. According to models of city development such as Hoyt's (sectoring) and Burgess (circular), more typical patterns would have separated economic uses and social class. Here, the situation is one of neighborhoods commingling, rather than having sharp and easily visible edges. Housing clusters, rather than

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## & Surrounding Area: A Summary of Findings

blocks or streets, held similar social groups. An intermingling of the various groups is distinctly evident through the architecture as large-scale, detached, richly detailed dwellings are sited adjacent to modest rowhouses. The adjacent waterfront was, of course, the site of Washington's limited industrial base. Lime kilns, gasworks, and glassworks hired cheap immigrant labor who had no choice but to live nearby. The White House drew many fine residences to its environs. The development of the industries harmed this use, but did not completely stop it.

An additional factor is that the institutional history shows a city, rather than a distinctly neighborhood focus. Churches and schools such as St. Mary's and Rose's Industrial School served an audience from within and without the neighborhood.

Expansion of the government work force in tandem with a need and desire for industry altered the neighborhood composition. War-time and post-war government labor growth are easily seen in Foggy Bottom's census reports. The Second World War had a particularly strong effect on the area's population, as local developers jumped on the opportunity to develop this relatively underdeveloped area. The make-up of the population changes at this point. It is still primarily residential, but more consistently comprised of white collar, singles or couples without children. This change in population required new types of housing stock, a need filled quickly by large apartment buildings.

### The Impact of George Washington University

An understanding of this area requires an analysis of the effect of the university on the neighborhood, and of its role as the major landholder. In 1912, when George Washington University first moved into the Foggy Bottom neighborhood, the school attempted to fit into the neighborhood. But as the school grew, became a residential university, and sought to develop high visibility, it began a long series of building ventures which did not consider the extant neighborhood landscape or identity. Attempts to create quads, the erection of large-scale classroom structures, and the demolition of many buildings has damaged the scale and natural development of the residential area. The growth of George Washington University blurred the distinction between the neighborhoods and resulting in the intermingling of these two once distinct areas.

What had once been a transitional residential zone now had a focus: the academic institution. The University, clearly responsible for disrupting the natural patterns, has imposed its own configuration over the area. This is not all bad, and in fact, it might be argued that George Washington

University has provided a framework (albeit a poorly constructed one) for neighborhood identity.

The establishment of the university has, in some cases, resulted in sound contributions to the architectural fabric of the area. But attempts to superimpose the university's presence without regard to extant buildings has been self-defeating. University planning has been ineffective both for the creation of a unified campus and in the consideration of the turn-of-the-century character of the area.

Over the years, university growth has continued to fragment the historic imagery, but has failed to replace it with a distinct image of its own. Images of the past are still strongly evident and valued by area residents, and the University's omnipresence has resulted in an area that is both and neither university campus or neighborhood. There is no clear visual focus, no commanding style, nor any recognizable organization. Here evidence of past identities rest side by side with the undefined style of the present. The connecting links of rowhouses have been demolished, and the University's setting is the poorer for it.

### Recommendations

Sound planning on the part of the university and representative neighborhood groups could create a balance between old and new architecture. By referencing the scale, materials, and design of the historic fabric of the area, the university has the potential to create a cohesive urban environment enhancing the university and respecting the historic buildings.

An example of a successful blending of old and new architecture can be seen in the university's newest building venture: the Law School on 19th Street. Here, historic elements are worked into new designs, similar materials are employed and scale and size are carefully presented. The streetscape is well-articulated for visual interest to the pedestrian, contemporary needs are served, while the surrounding old buildings are both respected and enhanced by the new structures.

This study has surveyed building and neighborhood history in order to determine their significance and their contribution to the area.

It is strongly recommended that the area be discussed as a multiple resource district and critical buildings sponsored for landmark status. This work should begin immediately.

We would like to recommend that the information and analysis included in this study be used to serve in:

1. Providing planners with a data base from which to guide and monitor new development.
2. Establishing priorities for conservation, restoration, rehabilitation and preservation efforts within the community.

3. Providing the basis for legal and financial tools to protect and enhance historic resources.

4. Increasing awareness in the public and private sectors of the man-made environment and the need for preservation efforts.

Further work to insure the protection of critical buildings should begin immediately. (When space permits, the *Foggy Bottom News* will present more of the study.)

## Highlights for September Issue:

## Tax Incentives For Historic Preservation

## The Fashionable West End

## The Seamy Side of Foggy Bottom

See You  
In  
September!

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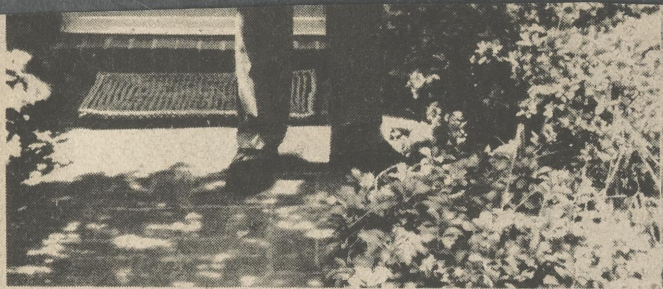


## "Some Lives"— A Delight

Somehow during the hectic course of my life in March and April and the move of my family to our new house in May, I lost an article that was written by Mary Haig to commemorate the celebration which was held at St. Mary's Court last March when "Some Lives" an anthology of poems written by members of the St. Marys Court Poetry Group was published. The publication of that book was truly worthy of a celebration. It is a delightful collection of poems that reflect the wide breadth of life experience of the members of the Poetry Group.

The Poetry Workshop at St. Marys Court has been meeting each Tuesday evening since December 1982 under the direction of Ed Cox, a local poet who has been conducting poetry workshops for older people since 1976. Ed seeks to create a participatory atmosphere which will encourage students to express their opinions and feel comfortable in offering constructive criticism about the work of the other participants. His method of instruction has reaped a truly healthy harvest of poems by members of the Group. The poets are: Edna Bouldin, Burton Felter, Harold Fischer, June Fitzpatrick, Kay Fossett, Faye Greene, Adele Haddad, Ve Hallenbeck, Doris Hollingsworth, Elizabeth Horn, Susan King, Ruth Matthews, Rose McNeill, Ray Pippitt, Mary Robertson, Kay Rush, Ida Ten Eyck, Elizabeth Valicenti and Lillian Wood. The publication of the anthology was made possible by a generous grant from the Philip L. Graham Fund of Washington, D.C. Thanks to the efforts of Elizabeth Valicenti and Mary Haig many of our fine Foggy Bottom merchants contributed the food and beverages for the celebration. Elizabeth and Mary asked me to extend their thanks in print to **Foggy Bottom Liquors, Watergate Hotel, Watergate Liquors, and Columbia Plaza Gourmet.**

Persons interested in obtaining a copy of the anthology should write to Ed Cox in care of St. Marys Court.



## Mike White— Outstanding Postman

When people think of the relatively peaceful and relaxed years of the late fifties and early sixties they usually conjur up visions of cozy houses, smiling children, and the neighborhood mailman who is everyone's friend. Foggy Bottom has of late been blessed with smiling children, has always had cozy houses and for several years now has a terrific mailman named Mike White. He is conscientious, sincere, friendly, reliable and professional—in sum, a superb postman and a warm and kind person. Mike, a native of the Washington area and a bachelor, enjoys his job even though it requires his arrival at work very early in the morning, usually around 5 a.m., in order to sort the mail and isn't completed until all of the mail has been delivered by the late after-

noon. At our household alone, Mike has tolerated broken mailboxes, snow covered steps and a bite in the hand from Toodie Marie. He's even kept track of the movements of households within our neighborhood to insure that mail reaches the proper person when we've forgotten to send change of address cards to the post office. He knows most of us by name, always is kind to the children and takes a real interest in neighborhood developments. In fact Mike had the entry with the greatest number of correctly identified houses from the Foggy Bottom Masthead. With this article, the Foggy Bottom News is very pleased to publicly acknowledge the fine work Mike White has done as our neighborhood postman.

**The  
Next Issue  
of the  
FBN  
will be  
published  
in  
September**

### Recommendations on Whitehurst (continued from page 7)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (a) traffic flows including, but not limited to: (i) the effects of closing the ramps at 25th and K streets on the local streets in Foggy Bottom, and (ii) the efficiency of the traffic dispersal system at the eastern terminus of the corridor at 21st Street; | benefits of the tunnel extension to the Foggy Bottom community;      |
| (b) the transportation and environmental  | (c) air and noise pollution;   |
|   | (d) costs of an economy tunnel; and                                  |
|   | (e) prudent and feasible alternatives to the 26th and M street ramp. |

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TUES-WED July 3-4  
Missing  
Z

THURS-SAT July 5-7

Never Say Never Again  
Dr. No  
SUN-MON July 8-9  
Battle of Algiers  
To Die in Madrid



# A MODEST HISTORY OF FOGGY BOTTOM

by Antoinette J. Lee

*(Introductory Note from Steve Levy: The Foggy Bottom News will be presenting a series of brief articles by Toni Lee, who has lived in and worked around Foggy Bottom for over 15 years. The series begins with "A Capsulized History," and then moves on to "The Changing Landscape of Foggy Bottom," "From Hamburg to L'Enfant's Capital City," "Foggy Bottom's Riverfront Settlement," "The Fashionable West End," "The Seamy Side of Foggy Bottom," and "Planning for the Renewal of Foggy Bottom." Those articles which are not presented in this issue of the News due to space limitations will be serialized in future issues. The series originally appeared in the News in 1977 and 1978 and is being reprinted, with Ms. Lee's gracious consent, as part of the Foggy Bottom Association's commitment to provide information to the public on the history and significance of Foggy Bottom.)*

## A CAPSULIZED HISTORY

*Where is the Foggy Bottom Neighborhood?*—roughly defined by the triangle formed by the White House, the Watergate, and Washington Circle. It is necessary to walk beyond the major thoroughfares and the tall office and apartment blocks to find the neighborhood.

### Before the Capital City

The area now known as Foggy Bottom was caught up in the land divisions that were made in Maryland. In 1664, the area was part of the land grant known as Widdowes's Mite. In 1763, a German emigrant, Jacob Funk purchased a tract of 130 acres in what was then Frederick County and laid out the town of Hamburg, likely named after the shipping center of his mother country. Also known as Funkstown, the town was roughly bounded by what is today H Street on the north, the Potomac River on the south, 19th Street on the east, and 23rd Street on the west. The town was envisioned to benefit from its proximity to the junction of the Potomac River and Rock Creek and the wharves that would serve the settlement. Georgetown, founded in 1751 to the west, was already a prospering port town. But it is unlikely that much in the way of the town had developed on the site prior to the end of the eighteenth century. In 1800, the area was described as only sparsely settled, with more opulent homes at the northern and eastern edges of the area, and modest dwellings and commercial buildings closer to the Potomac waterfront.

### 1790–Present

L'Enfant's plan for Washington provided a new pattern of development for the area. Like several other strategically placed points throughout the city, Washington Circle was seen as a focus around which a neighborhood would grow. As time passed, these dispersed settlements would expand and merge, allowing for somewhat even growth across the city and yet retaining some of the local characteristics that had earliest defined the settlements.

This growth plan was reinforced by the location of markets. In 1803, Western Market was located on the southside of Pennsylvania Avenue, between 20th and 21st Streets, facing the present landmark Eye Street Row. This market served as the commercial and civic center for the area until 1852 when it burned. After then, the market was moved to 21st and K Streets.

The area's growth in the first three quarters of the nineteenth century witnessed the emerging difference between the high-ground neighborhood and that of the low-ground.

The high-ground area, north of E Street and east of 23rd, developed as a highly desirable residential enclave. It was initially marked by the construction along Pennsylvania Avenue of the "Seven Buildings" above 21st Street and the "Six Buildings" west of 19th Street, both developments dating from the end of the 18th century. Other substantial dwellings, occupied by members of the military and the diplomatic corps, spread along E, F, G, H, and Eye Streets. By the 1880's, one observer noted that G Street "fairly rang with the wheels of carriages on Wednesdays, the official calling day for the Army and the Navy set, there was no gayer or more colorful street in all of Washington."

It was into this affluent area that George Washington University relocated in 1912, after wandering from College Hill (1821–early 1880's) to a downtown location (1884–1912). From its first building at 2023 G Street, the University gradually spread into other residential buildings along G Street, using some for extended periods of time as classrooms and offices and replacing others as funds allowed. In a relatively enlightened period of campus planning, the University produced the neo-Georgian Corcoran and Stockton Halls, two of a projected eight buildings intended to be "built solidly around the four sides of the block" defined by G and H Street, and 20th and 21st Streets. The Depression era was marked by a break in the neo-Georgian designs with Lisner, Stuart, and Bell Halls as examples of this more spartan period. In the 1950's, the new Hall of Government and the Engineering School on 23rd Street display some aspirations to a more abundant architecture. In recent years, most of the new classroom and office buildings have closely resembled office blocks that could easily have been located along the present-day K Street.

The low-ground area was characterized by industrial and shipping activities and the working-class settlement it produced. In 1809, the Edwards and Way glass manufacturing plant was located near the 21st Street wharf. Later, the glass factory was joined by a brewery and even later by gas works. These industrial enterprises plus the construction of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal (begun in 1828) gave some substance to the claim for Washington not only as the national capital city but also as a prosperous industrial center. The river and canal orientation of the low-ground settlement linked it with Georgetown, a short promenade away, and with the Navy Yard and the Arsenal. But the marshy and in some places desolate character of this area gave rise to its present day name, Foggy Bottom, where the "incessant croaking of frogs at night furnished material for ghost stories."

The reclamation of the miasmic Potomac Flats followed closely on the decline of the Potomac as a navigable river within the boundaries of the District. The filling in of the city canal, running along the present day Constitution Avenue, served as an initial step in the changed environment of the area. The Potomac Flats became Potomac Park, the grounds of which were stable enough to support the monuments that later adorned it.

Further upgrading of the area continued into the twentieth century, with the closing of the factories and the removal of the gas works. With the elimination of these sources of blue-collar employment, the area became attractive for the location of government buildings and to private investment. But the population of the low-ground area did not move out immediately. It became a source of slum studies and housing and planning recommendations. By the early 1950's, much of the area was undergoing piecemeal restoration in much the same way that Georgetown had in the 1930's and Capitol Hill also in the 1950's.

Today the Foggy Bottom neighborhood is a product of these forces of development. Substantial houses, such as the John Marshall House at 1801 F Street and the F Street Club, testify to the affluent character of the high-ground settlement. Smaller restored rowhouses to the west of 23rd Street are evidence of the former blue-collar area that located close to the commercial and industrial low-ground area. The high-rise apartment buildings interspersed throughout both the high and low grounds are largely creatures of the area's proximity to the center of town and white-collar employment. Those apartment and office towers of the past two decades capitalized on the convenient location and the sizeable demand for accommodation in the area. But today the neighborhood stands at a crossroads. It now incorporates a balance of low-rise and high-rise structures and a healthy mix of low, middle, and high income residents. However, a continuation of the present rate of large-scale development threatens to obliterate all vestiges of Foggy Bottom as one of the city's oldest neighborhoods, one that was founded before the Revolutionary War.

## Special Public Hearing on Whitehurst Freeway/K Street Tunnel

by Maria Tyler

Earlier this year a small group of us (Geoffrey Stamm, Chair, ANC 2A, Melvin Ogden, Treasurer FBA, Geoffrey Tyler, ANC 2A representative on the Whitehurst Freeway Steering Committee, and myself), went to see Reverend Moore, Councilmember-at-Large and Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Environment in the D.C. Coun-

cil, to ask him for help in what we believe is a legitimate request to alleviate the adverse impact of the Whitehurst Freeway on Foggy Bottom in the context of the forthcoming Freeway redesign. We explained the flaws in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Whitehurst Freeway Corridor Study, including in particular the very inadequate treatment given to Foggy Bottom with respect to the analyses dealing with traffic flows, pe-

destrian safety, and noise and air pollution, as well as the virtual omission of an examination of the request for an extension of the tunnel under Washington Circle to beyond 26th Street. Such a tunnel was being viewed by a large number of Foggy Bottom residents as the only meaningful solution to deal with the present hazardous K Street through traffic which is also allowed to spill over into virtually all other Foggy Bottom residential streets. We stressed that the community did not ask for a deluxe version but only the least expensive tunnel, with the four center lanes depressed for through traffic and covered for pedestrian use only, not a heavy load bearing cover for vehicular traffic. Reverend Moore suggested a special public hearing on the subject. The hearing which took place on May 21, 1984, resulted in the following letter and recommendations.

May 31, 1984

Mr. John Touchstone  
Director, Department of Public Works  
415 12th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Re: Submission of Documents for Whitehurst Freeway Hearing Record

Dear Mr. Touchstone:

In response to the concerns of the residents of Foggy Bottom, I held a public hearing on May 21, 1984 on the Whitehurst Freeway/K Street Tunnel Extension. The sole purpose of this hearing was to receive testimony on the transportation and environmental impact of extending the Whitehurst Freeway/K Street tunnel to 25th Street, N.W.

I am requesting that the attached hearing report, with recommendations, and the testimony be included in the Department of Public Works' hearing record on the Whitehurst Freeway Corridor System Modification Study. I strongly recommend that the Department of Public Works carry out the recommendations contained in the hearing report before any requests for District funds for the rehabilitation of the Whitehurst Freeway are received by this Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely yours,

Jerry A. Moore, Jr.  
Chairman  
Committee on Transportation and Environmental Affairs

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon the testimony received at the hearing on May 21, 1984, the following recommendations are made:

1. Submit all testimony to the Department of Public Works for inclusion in the Department's hearing record on the Whitehurst Freeway.
2. Recommend to the Department of Public Works that they further analyze the effects of the Whitehurst Freeway on the Foggy Bottom-West End community. Factors in need of additional analysis include:

(Recommendations continued on page 6)



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